

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claim as follows:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A content related information provision apparatus that provides related information on contents ~~consisting of~~ including reference data arranged in time series, ~~characterized by the apparatus~~ comprising:

related information receiving means that receives related information on contents from one or more user devices;

related information storing means that stores ~~the received~~ related information on contents;

reference information receiving means that receives reference information from the one or more user devices, the reference information specifying contents to be referred to by the related information and specifying a data reference position in the contents;

reference information storing means that stores ~~the received~~ reference information specifying contents to be referred to by the related information and a data reference position in the contents; and

information delivering means ~~that transmits information for displaying on a display regarding which related information is inputted at a specific user device from among said one or more user devices, and~~ that delivers at least one of the stored related information ~~and/or~~ the stored reference information to the one or more user devices,

wherein the content referred to in the related information was already distributed or will be distributed to the one or more user devices.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): A content related information provision apparatus according to claim 1, ~~characterized by~~ further comprising:

means that specifies an installation region of a terminal apparatus of the one or more user devices to be a delivery destination according to the information delivering means; and

information changing means that changes contents of related information and/or reference information, which should be delivered, according to the installation region.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): A content related information provision apparatus according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein

the contents refer to a broadcast program, and

the reference information includes information specifying a broadcasting station, which broadcasts or has broadcasted a program, and information specifying a date and time when a reference part in a program is broadcasted or has been broadcasted.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A content related information provision apparatus according to claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the reference information specifies a broadcasting station, which broadcasts or has broadcasted a program, using a channel number.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A content related information provision apparatus according to claim 3, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the reference information further includes information for specifying a broadcast starting date and time of the program and information for specifying a broadcast end time of a program or a length of the program.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): A content related information provision apparatus according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the information delivering means includes

identification information of a site handling information resources related to contents in the reference information and delivers the identification information.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A content related information provision apparatus according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the information delivering means includes information for correcting deviation of a clock in a terminal apparatus to be a delivery destination in the reference information and delivers the information.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A content related information provision apparatus according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the information delivering means includes a characteristic amount of contents at a reference position in the contents in the reference information and delivers the characteristic amount.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A content related information provision apparatus according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the information delivering means delivers plural pieces of reference information collectively.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): A content related information provision apparatus according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the information delivering means delivers the related information and/or the reference information in accordance with an HTTP (Hyper Text Transfer Protocol).

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A content related information provision apparatus according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the information delivering means delivers

the related information and/or the reference information in accordance with an SMTP (Simple Mail Transfer Protocol).

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): A content related information provision apparatus according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the information delivering means designates a character string, which is capable of identifying reference information, in a header of a delivery message at the time of delivery of reference information.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): A content related information provision method that provides related information on contents ~~consisting of~~including reference data arranged in time series, ~~characterized by the method~~ comprising:

receiving related information on contents from one or more users;

~~a related information storing step of storing~~ the received related information on contents;

receiving reference information from one or more users, the reference information specifying contents to be referred to by the related information and specifying a data reference position in the contents;

~~a reference information storing step of storing~~ the received reference information that ~~specifies contents to be referred to by the related information and a data reference position in the contents;~~ and

~~an information delivering step of delivering~~ information for displaying on a display regarding which related information is inputted by a specific user from among said one or more users, and delivering at least one of the stored related information and/or the stored reference information to the one or more users;

wherein the content referred to in the related information was already distributed or will be distributed to the one or more users.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): A content related information provision method according to claim 13, ~~characterized by~~ further comprising:

~~a step of~~ specifying an installation region of a terminal apparatus of the one or more users to be a delivery destination according to the information delivering step; and
~~an information changing step of~~ changing contents of related information and/or reference information, which should be delivered, according to the installation region.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): A content related information provision method according to claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein

the contents refer to a broadcast program, and
the reference information includes information specifying a broadcasting station, which broadcasts or has broadcasted a program, and information specifying a date and time when a reference part in a program is broadcasted or has been broadcasted.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): A content related information provision method according to claim 14, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the reference information further includes information for specifying a broadcast starting date and time of the program and information for specifying a broadcast end time of a program or a length of the program.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A computer readable medium having a -program recorded thereon written in a computer readable format so as to execute processing to perform a method for providing related information on contents ~~consisting of~~ including

reference data arranged in time series on a computer system, ~~characterized by including said~~
method comprising:

receiving related information on contents from one or more users;

storing the received related information on contents;

receiving reference information from one or more users, the reference information
specifying contents to be referred to by the related information and specifying a data
reference position in the contents;

storing the received reference information; and

delivering information for displaying on a display regarding which related
information is inputted by a specific user from among said one or more users, and delivering
at least one of the stored related information or the stored reference information to the one or
more users;

wherein the content referred to in the related information was already distributed or
will be distributed to the one or more users~~a related information storing step of storing related~~
~~information for contents;~~

~~— a reference information storing step of storing contents referred to by the related~~
~~information and reference information specifying a data reference position in the contents;~~
~~and~~

~~— an information delivery step of delivering the related information and/or the reference~~
~~information.~~

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): A computer ~~program~~ readable medium according to
claim 17, ~~characterized by the method~~ further comprising:

~~a step of specifying an installation region of a terminal apparatus~~ of the one or more
users to be a delivery destination according to the information delivering step; and

~~an information changing step of changing contents of related information and/or~~
reference information, which should be delivered, according to the installation region.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): A computer ~~program~~ readable medium according to claim 17, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein

the contents refer to a broadcast program, and

the reference information includes information specifying a broadcasting station, which broadcasts or has broadcasted a program, and information specifying a date and time when a reference part in a program is broadcasted or has been broadcasted.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): A computer ~~program~~ readable medium according to claim 18, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the reference information further includes information for specifying a broadcast starting date and time of the program and information for specifying a broadcast end time of a program or a length of the program.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): A bulletin board system that supports information exchange for contents ~~consisting of~~ including reference data arranged in time series, ~~characterized by the system~~ comprising:

a related information receiver configured to receive remarks on contents from one or more user devices;

a related information storing unit configured to store the received remarks;

a reference information receiver configured to receive reference information from the one or more user devices, the reference information specifying contents to be referred to by the remarks and specifying a data reference position in the contents;

a reference information storing unit that stores the received reference information; and

an information transmitter configured to transmit information for displaying on a display regarding which remarks are inputted at a specific user device from among said one or more user devices, and to transmit at least one of the stored remarks or the stored reference information to the one or more user devices,

wherein the content referred to in the remarks was already distributed or will be distributed to the one or more user devices

~~receiving means that, at the time of contribution of a remark concerning contents, receives reference information for specifying a reference position in the contents referred to by the remark together with a remark content;~~

~~storing means that stores the remark contents and the reference information in association with each other; and~~

~~transmitting means that, at the time of inspection of the remark contents, transmits reference information corresponding to the remark contents to a terminal apparatus of a request source.~~

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): A bulletin board system according to claim 21, ~~characterized by~~ further comprising:

means that specifies an installation region of a terminal apparatus of the one or more user devices to be a provision destination of information; and

means that changes contents of reference information according to the specified installation region.

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): A bulletin board system according to claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~wherein

the contents refer to a broadcast program, and

the reference information includes information specifying a broadcasting station that broadcasts or has broadcasted a program, and information specifying a date and time when a reference part in the program is broadcasted or has been broadcasted.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): A bulletin board system according to claim 23, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the reference information specifies a broadcasting station, which broadcasts or has broadcasted a program, using a channel number.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): A bulletin board system according to claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the transmitting means transmitter is further configured to transmit ~~transmits~~ a name of a bulletin board, in which a corresponding remark is written, with the name included in the reference information.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): A bulletin board system according to claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the transmitting means ~~transmits~~ transmitter is further configured to transmit corresponding remark contents with the remark contents included in the reference information.

Claim 27 (Currently Amended): A bulletin board system according to claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the transmitting means ~~transmitter is further configured to include~~ ~~includes~~ identification information of a site handling information resources related to contents in the reference information and delivers the identification information.

Claim 28 (Currently Amended): A bulletin board system according to claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the transmitting means ~~includes~~ transmitter is further configured

to include information for correcting deviation of a clock in a terminal apparatus to be a delivery destination in the reference information and delivers the information.

Claim 29 (Currently Amended): A bulletin board system according to claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the transmitting means-transmitter is further configured to include ~~includes~~ a characteristic amount of contents at a reference position in the contents in the reference information and delivers the characteristic amount.

Claim 30 (Currently Amended): A bulletin board system according to claim 21, ~~characterized in that~~wherein the transmitting means-delivers-transmitter is further configured to deliver plural pieces of reference information collectively.

Claim 31 (Currently Amended): A bulletin board system according to claim 21, ~~characterized by~~ further comprising:

a unit means that, in writing of a remark, transmits an execution code for automatically acquiring reference information or urging a user to input a remark to a terminal apparatus side of a requiring source of the one or more user devices.

Claim 32 (Currently Amended): A bulletin board system according to claim 21, ~~characterized by~~ further comprising:

~~means a unit~~ a unit that, concerning an execution code for automatically acquiring reference information stored in ~~the~~ a terminal apparatus of the requesting source of the one or more user devices in advance or urging a user to input a remark, transmits information necessary for starting the execution code to the terminal apparatus.

Claim 33 (Currently Amended): A bulletin board system according to claim 21,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the transmitting means delivers the remark contents and/or the
reference information in accordance with an HTTP (Hyper Text Transfer Protocol).

Claim 34 (Currently Amended): A bulletin board system according to claim 21,
~~characterized in that the~~ wherein the transmitter is configured to deliver~~transmitting means~~
delivers the remark contents and/or the reference information in accordance with an SMTP
(Simple Mail Transfer Protocol).

Claim 35 (Currently Amended): A bulletin board system according to claim 21,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the transmitting means designates a character string, which is
capable of identifying the reference information, in a header of a delivery message at the time
of delivery of reference information.

Claim 36 (Currently Amended): A bulletin board system according to claim 23,
~~characterized by further comprising:~~

~~means a~~ specification unit that, concerning a program series to be an object of an
argument in a bulletin board, specifies a broadcast schedule for the next broadcast of the
series; and

~~means that a~~ unit that transmits the broadcast schedule to a terminal apparatus of a
request source of the one or more user devices.

Claim 37 (Currently Amended): A bulletin board system according to claim 36,
~~characterized by further comprising:~~

~~means a~~ setting unit that sets a bulletin board for each program series and performs download of the program schedule from a screen displaying information in the bulletin board or a screen displaying a list of remarks in the bulletin board.

Claim 38 (Currently Amended): A bulletin board system according to claim 23,
~~characterized by~~ further comprising:

~~means that specifies a~~ specification unit a rebroadcast schedule for a program to be an object of a remark; and

~~means a~~ unit that transmits the rebroadcast schedule to a terminal apparatus of a request source of the one or more user devices.

Claim 39 (Currently Amended): A bulletin board system according to claim 38,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the transmitting means transmits the rebroadcast schedule with the rebroadcast schedule included in reference information.

Claim 40 (Currently Amended): A bulletin board system according to claim 21,
~~characterized by~~ further comprising:

~~means that designates a~~ designation unit configured to designate retrieval conditions for a remark; and

~~means that retrieves a~~ retrieving unit configured to retrieve a remark across plural bulletin boards on the basis of the designated retrieval conditions.

Claim 41 (Currently Amended): A bulletin board system according to claim 40,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the bulletin board system uses a keyword included in a remark or designated separately at the time of writing the remark as retrieval conditions.

Claim 42 (Currently Amended): A bulletin board system according to claim 40,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the bulletin board system uses a name or an ID of a user who
has written the remark as retrieval conditions.

Claim 43 (Currently Amended): A bulletin board system according to claim 40,
~~characterized in that~~ wherein the bulletin board system uses a date and time when the remark
is written as retrieval conditions.